

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

50X1-HUM

REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 7 April 1952

SUBJECT 1. Intensified Sigurimi Campaign
2. Security Units in the Konispol Area

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1. In May 1951, the Government began a new campaign against the "privileged" classes which meant in fact the introduction of more severe measures against anti-regime individuals.
2. Between May and October 1951, the numbers of the Sigurimi and police were increased. Each officer has his own group of informers whose identity is not known to his fellow officers. Even if they are not Party members, these informers are used to watch other Sigurimi officials, as well as the public. Many of the informers do this work simply for the privileges that it carries, such as ration books and connivance in petty crimes which would at once entail imprisonment for other citizens.
3. One victim of the intensified Sigurimi campaign was an accountant for a Sarande industrial plant. He was sentenced to a year's imprisonment for not reporting private stocks of oil. But with his release after serving seven months, he refused to turn informer. In May 1951 he was denounced before a public gathering as an "enemy of the people" and was removed from the lists of the Democratic Front, the Albano-Soviet Friendship League, the Cultural League and his trade union. He was, however, allowed to remain in his job as his services were needed until further accountants finished their training.
4. A detachment of 200 men of the Sigurimi recently was sent to Shales near Konispol to be stationed. These men have no contact with the public.
5. The frontier guard detachment at Konispol has recently been increased to 60 men.

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